

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-3 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over copending Application Nos. 10/697,084, 10/697,082, 10/697, 027, 10/697, 080, and 10/697,086. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The double-patenting rejection is the only claim rejection remaining in the instant application. Because none of the co-pending applications identified in the double-patenting rejection have issued as patents, Applicant respectfully requests that the current rejection be withdrawn and allow the instant application to issue as a patent. *See* MPEP §804(I)(B). Accordingly, the provisional double-patenting rejection of claims 1-3 should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Based on at least the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1-3 are allowable, and this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application. In the event the Examiner has any comments or suggestions for placing the application in even better form, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this request. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. SHO-0050 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: *MAY 3, 2005*

Respectfully submitted,

By

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